

TWENTY-FIFTH
ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 28, 1877.



LYNN :
BESSOM STEAM PRINTING OFFICE—RUSSELL, MANAGER.
NO. 99 MUNROE STREET.
1877.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

AUDITING COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 28, 1877.

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BESSOM STEAM PRINTING OFFICE—RUSSELL, MANAGER,
NO. 99 MUNROE STREET.
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Report of Auditing Committee.

Fellow Citizens of Swampscott:

YOUR Committee, appointed to Audit the Accounts of the Town for the year ending Feb. 28, 1877, have attended to that duty, and respectfully present the following Report.

ALBERT J. LEE, C. A. HASKELL, 2d, FRED O. ELLIS,	}	Auditing Committee.
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ASSESSORS' VALUATION OF THE TOWN, MAY 1, 1876.

Real Estate,	\$2,108,462 00
Personal Property,	360,961 00
Total,	. . . . .	<u>\$2,469,423 00</u>
Rate of taxation,	. . . . .	\$1 20 on \$100 00
Number of polls,	. . . . .	607
Total tax on polls,	. . . . .	\$1214 00
Number of dwelling-houses,	. . . . .	471
Acres of land,	. . . . .	1537½
Horses,	. . . . .	201
Cows,	. . . . .	83
Sheep,	. . . . .	20
Deaths,	. . . . .	39
Births,	. . . . .	59
Marriages,	. . . . .	24

STATEMENT OF TOWN DEBT.

Lynn Institution for Savings,	\$5,000 00
P. A. Chase,	5,000 00
P. A. Chase, trustee,	5,000 00
C. F. Coffin, trustee,	11,000 00
John N. Hooper,	874 80
Henry Martin,	1,000 00
Estate of Warren Small,	500 00
Edward Knowles,	250 00
Prov. Institution for Savings,	4,500 00
Lynn Five Cents Savings Bank,	2,500 00
Lynn Institution for Savings,	6,000 00
John Smith,	300 00
Elizabeth Proctor,	600 00
Blaney & Phillips,	1,000 00
Nat'l City Bank of Lynn, temporary loan	2,000 00
Outstanding orders,	517 57
	<hr/>
Total,	\$46,042 37

The balance of uncollected Taxes is as follows :

J. Harding,	\$919 56
William Seger, 1874	1,210 45
William Seger, 1875	2,630 17
D. P. Stimpson, 1876	7,359 45
	<hr/>
Total Tax uncollected,	\$12,119 63
Due on State Aid	\$722 00
Cash in Treasury	1,338 20
Value of Public Property	35,200 00
	<hr/>
	\$37,260 20
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	\$49,379 83

Receipts and Expenditures.

SELECTMEN'S DEPARTMENT.

Appropriation \$2,000 00

EXPENDITURES

D. P. Stimpson, services as Treasurer and Collector	\$350 00
J. S. Higgins, services as Selectman and Secretary	200 00
Allen Rowe, services as Selectman . . .	100 00
Henry Kendrick, services as Selectman . .	75 00
B. J. Lindsey, services as Town Clerk . .	75 00
Wm. Seger, services as Assessor . . .	90 00
Geo. Smith, services as Assessor . . .	35 00
Geo. Towns, services as Assessor, . . .	30 00
Chas. A. Haskell, 2d, services as Auditor .	15 00
Fred O. Ellis, services as Auditor, 1874 .	5 00
E. E. Boynton, services as Auditor . . .	15 00
sundries	3 50
S. C. Pitman, teams and labor	13 00
Sarah E. Newcomb, refunded on wall . .	29 00
T. P. Nichols, printing Town Reports . .	58 50
Nehemiah Lee, lumber, 1875	41 49
J. P. Small, brass padlock	1 25
John Chapman, drain box	2 25
John Gannon, labor on sea wall	31 75
S. Armstrong, repairing sea wall . . .	4 50
T. P. Nichols, Printing	1 25

Amount carried forward,

\$1,176 49

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$1,176 49
Benj. Potter, locks, keys, etc.	8 77
S. R. Rogers, surveying	5 00
Moses Nesbett, distributing Town Reports	2 00
Joseph Brown, distributing Town Reports	2 00
Waldo Thompson, Insurance on Beach School	45 00
S. C. Pitman, labor	7 50
Ivory Emmons, stock and labor	64 07
John Griffin, repairing sea wall	13 00
S. C. Pitman, teams and labor	42 37
Town of Marblehead, Real Estate Tax	6 66
David Merritt, damages	4 00
Bessom Job Print, 1000 tax bills	6 00
Waldo Thompson, Insurance	98 30
T. B. Newhall, fees	40 00
Leonard Blanchard, rent of life-boat house	20 00
Chas A. Norris, painting signs	52 00
Benj. J. Lindsey, recording marriages, births, deaths, etc.	39 75
Benj. J. Lindsey, sundries	3 64
D. P. Stimpson, sundries	9 61
Robert Harris, teams and labor	20 50
Geo. H. Holden, sundries	15 58
Ivory Emmons, stock and labor on hay scales	13 17
J. Chapman, stock and labor on hay scales	1 90
S. P. Parrott, services at Coroner's Inquest	3 00
James Ruddy, services at Coroner's Inquest	3 00
	—————\$1,703 31

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	\$7,800 00
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EXPENDITURES.

S. W. Clarke, services as teacher . . .	\$314 27
Miss M. Landen, services as teacher . .	612 77
Mrs. L. M. Means, services as teacher . .	469 16
Miss E. J. Hadley, services as teacher. .	449 90
Mrs. M. E. Larkin, services as teacher . .	449 90
Miss K. Commerford, services as teacher	449 89
Miss K. Commerford, ballance due from 1875	6 21
Miss S. Palmer, services as teacher . . .	407 06
Miss C. F. Mott, services as teacher . . .	449 91
Miss A. M. Mott, services as teacher . . .	449 91
Miss C. M. Colcord, services as teacher . .	398 18
Miss A. Goudcy, services as teacher . . .	228 54
Miss C. L. Bancroft, services as teacher,	114 27
Miss M. E. Heyborn, services as teacher	321 36
Miss E. F. Adams, services as teacher . .	192 80
Miss M. E. Seger, services as teacher . .	79 71
Mrs. L. Hayford, services as Committee . .	75 00
Rev. L. Drury, services as Committee . . .	20 00
I. Emmons, services as Committee	50 00
H. Coleman, services as Committee	25 00
A. F. Nesbett, services as Truant Officer .	35 00
Mrs. Casey, services as Janitor, Farm School	50 00
A. F. Bartlett, services as Janitor, High Sch'l	8 00
Dan'l Marshall, services as Truant Officer, ('74)	5 00
Mrs. Cohan, services as Janitor, Beach School	56 00
J. K. West, services as Janitor, Gr. School .	333 52
R. V. Bessom, services as Janitor Essex St. Sc.	50 00
R. V. Bessom, for broom, bucket and duster .	2 25
Jas. Bryant, services as Janitor, Pine St. Sc.	100 00
I. Emmons, sawing, splitting and delivering	
7 cords pine wood	21 00
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	<u>\$6,223 63</u>

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$6223 63
I. Emmons, stock and labor, High School, at	
Town Hall	37 63
stock and labor, Grammar School	42 26
stock and labor, Pine St. School	23 30
stock and labor, Beach School .	11 10
stock and labor, Farm School .	9 14
blackboards	10 26
sundries	23 47
Choate & Rowe, wood and coal	258 00
G. M. Lawrence, 10 cords pine wood . .	60 40
J. L. Hammett, school supplies	86 45
T. O. Philbrick, stock and labor, Beach Sch'l	2 73
stock and labor, Gram. Sch'l	21 50
stock and labor, High School	6 20
stock and labor. Pine St. Sch'l	3 90
Miss C. M. Colcord, drawing Material . .	10 35
J. Campbell, Chamber's Encyclopedia, 10 vols.	23 00
J. C. Norton, tuning organ	3 00
J. W. C. Gilman & Co., books	16 29
American Metric Bureau Chart,	1 50
F. J. Cushing & Co., plumbing	7 09
A. J. Lee, sundries	1 68
Miner & Corse, shades and fixtures . .	28 06
T. P. Nichols, 650 copies school reports. .	56 00
S. M. Shattuck, sundries	75
Samuel W. Clarke, sundries	11 30
Hanford & Phillips, glazing, etc. . . .	13 20
E. G. Emmons, census of children from 5 to 15	15 00
B. J. Lindsey, shades and fixtures . .	35 00
Thompson, Brown & Co., books	7 89
Oliver Ditson & Co., 5 doz. singing books .	23 75
James Bryson, labor at Pine Street School .	2 00
Chas. W. Kennard & Co., clock	7 00
W. F. Goldsmith & Co., shades Grammar Sch'l	12 50
L. Drury, sundries	13 72
Mrs. L. Hayford, sundries	5 00
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$7,115 03

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$7,115 03
P. Ashton, ink	5 00
G. H. Wadsworth, sundries	19 27
G. H. Holden, sundries	8 00
J. P. Small, brush and paint	1 35
Roberts' Express	23 50
	<hr/> \$7,172 15

BEACH SCHOOL-HOUSE.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	\$3,500 00
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EXPENDITURES.

Ivory Emmons, as per contract	\$2,370 00
Joseph L. Ross, new school furniture	247 00
S. C. Pitman, grading	125 50
Ivory Emmons, stock and labor	205 14
Thompson, Brown & Co., school furniture	254 00
A. M. Norton & Co., well pipe	23 64
C. R. Blackmore, pumps and pipe	10 20
E. Roncast, specification	20 00
A. Wentworth & Co., sink	8 00
Thompson, Brown & Co., furniture	5 80
T. O. Philbrick, stove, funnel, etc.	84 28
Ivory Emmons, stock and labor	5 85
P. Cullen, hinges, hooks and bolts	7 95
C. R. Blackmore, driving well	18 00
W. D. Andrews & Bro., royalty on same	10 00
	<hr/> \$3,395 36

HIGHWAYS.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	\$4,000 00
Special appropriation for water for streets	200 00
	<hr/> \$4,200 00

EXPENDITURES.

S. C. Pitman, teams and labor	\$3,787 23
P. Cullen, stock and labor	58 90
Thos. Murray, labor	50 00
Ames Plow Co., tools	15 53
John Chapman, box drains	8 25
May & Withey, drain pipe	2 70
J. D. Dennis, stone drag	8 00
Joshua P. Small, tools	95
Lynn Water Board, water for streets	208 49
	<hr/> \$4140 05

TOWN LIBRARY.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	\$100 00
Dog Tax	160 25
Received for books loaned	443 25
	<hr/> \$703 50

EXPENDITURES.

Estes & Lauriat, books	\$280 35
Thos. B. Breare, binding	47 45
Curtis Merritt, services as Librarian	175 00
expressing, stationery, etc.	5 85
Geo. Till, services as Assistant Librarian	25 00
services as Janitor	18 75
N. E. Subscription Agency, Magazines, etc.,	45 95
M. G. Colesworthy, Webster's Dictionary	7 00
P. L. Cox, "Lynn Reporter"	1 25
H. N. Hastings, "Swampscott Enterprise"	34
Kimball & Courtis, "Lynn Transcript"	50
Proctor Bros. "Cape Ann Advertiser"	84
May & Withey, lamps and fixtures for Reading-	
room	23 76
T. P. Nichols, printing	8 00

Amount carried forward, \$640 04

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$640 04
B. J. Lindsey, table covering, reading-room	15 00
Benj. Potter, tables for reading-room . . .	17 15
Geo. F. King, blank-books	3 50
A. F. Nesbitt, care of Library	11 67
E. Boynton, books	13 12
B. B. Russell, books	5 00
T. O. Philbrick, labor on stove	2 25
	<hr/> \$707 73

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	\$800 00
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EXPENDITURES.

Taunton Lunatic Hospital, aid Jas. Bishop, .	\$208 20
Worcester Lunatic Hospital, aid to Margaret Welch,	203 76
Groceries, etc., to Eben Twining,	177 74
Town of Natick, Henry Allen,	108 50
Town of Marblehead, Wm Quiner,	89 49
City of Boston, aid to Ellen Burrows,	72 00
City of Lynn, aid to Mrs. Caroline Pierce,	36 00
Groceries, etc., for Mrs. J. B. Watts,	23 74
Aid to James E. Wells,	21 18
Aid to James Stone,	17 39
Aid to Mrs. Loverill,	10 98
James A. Knowlton, Overseer for 1876	25 00
Z. Small, Overseer for 1876	20 00
D. F. Proctor, Overseer for 1876	7 00
Choate & Rowe, wood and coal to W. Atwood	3 50
	<hr/> \$1024 48

CEMETERY.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	190 00
Received from sale of lots	115 00
	<hr/> \$215 00

EXPENDITURES.

J. S. Brown, labor	\$111 37	
Dennis Lyons, stock and labor on fence	33 00	
Woodside Nursery, trees	11 00	
John S. Higgins, services as Superintendent	25 00	
		<u>\$180 37</u>

TOWN HOUSE.

RECEIPTS.

Received for rent of Town Hall	\$140 50
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EXPENDITURES.

A. F. Nesbett, care of Hall	\$50 00	
cleaning Hall	11 50	
sundries	60	
Choate & Rowe, 3 tons coal	21 25	
A. J. Lee, sundries	9 89	
May & Withey, lamp fixtures	1 15	
Joshua P. Small, door key	25	
Ivory Emmons, stock and labor	1 79	
T. O. Philbrick, stock and labor	90	
May & Withey, floor matting	55 32	
		<u>\$152 65</u>

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	\$200 00
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EXPENDITURES.

F. A. Tweed, services as police	70 00	
James Wheeler, services as police, 1875	30 50	
James Wheeler, services as police,	29 50	
Geo. W. Farrington, services as police	15 00	
John Pedrick, services as police	5 00	
Geo. W. Farrington, services as police, 1875	5 00	
M. Nesbett, services as police	5 00	
Dan'l Marshall, services as police, 1874	10 00	
		<u>\$170 00</u>

STREET LAMPS.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation. \$150 00

EXPENDITURES.

Walworth Manufacturing Co., 141 gal. naptha	26 52	
George W. Harris, care of lamps . . .	104 14	
John Binney, fixtures for lamps . . .	10 15	
Joshua P. Small, sundries	2 32	
T. O. Philbrick, 2 oil cans	2 25	
		<u>\$145 38</u>

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

EXPENDITURES.

Benjamin M. Green, services for 1875 . . .	15 00	
Benjamin M. Green, cash paid	3 00	
A. F. Nesbett, services	16 25	
Samuel C. Pitman, labor	2 50	
		<u>\$36 75</u>

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriations \$25 00.

EXPENDITURES.

A. F. Nesbett, care of engine \$20 00

WELLS.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation \$250 00

EXPENDITURES.

Sam'l C. Pitman, labor on well at Gr. School	\$84 00
Jas. Bryson, labor on well at Town House . . .	81 00

Amount carried forward, \$165 00

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$165 00
F. J. Cushing & Co., labor on well at Pine St. .	70 00
Wm. D. Andrews & Bro., royalty on same .	10 00
T. O. Philbrick, pump, pipe and labor . .	38 58
Kimball Tyler, pump for Town House . .	19 50
Samuel C. Pitman, labor on beach pump .	14 87
Wm. Rowell, stock and labor . . .	9 25
Gilbert Deland, trough for beach pump . .	8 00
Joshua P. Small, stock and labor . . .	2 19
T. O. Philbrick, dipper and chain . . .	95
	<hr/> \$338 34

REDINGTON COURT.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	\$500 00
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EXPENDITURES.

S. C. Pitman, teams and labor	\$417 00
P. Carroll, material for filling	50 00
P. Cullen, sharpening tools	29 00
Chas. A. Hammond, plan for draining . .	10 00
	<hr/> \$506 00

STACEY'S BROOK.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	\$500 00
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EXPENDITURES.

S. C. Pitman, labor and material	\$40 78
Daniel Marshall, services as Commissioner .	2 00
	<hr/> \$42 78

J. R. MERRITT'S CLAIM.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	\$125 00
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EXPENDITURES.

Paid John R. Merritt	\$125 00
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STATE AID.

RECEIPTS.

Received from State,	\$528 00
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EXPENDITURES.

Joseph W. Glass,	72 00
William Widger,	48 00
Patrick Milan,	48 00
A. M. Chute,	48 00
William H. Johnson,	48 00
Charles H. Fairbanks,	48 00
James Umber,	44 00
Edward Winslow,	48 00
John C. Stimpson,	120 00
Torrey Peabody,	120 00
Horace W. Wardwell,	72 00
Patrick Brown,	6 00
	<u>\$722 00</u>

RECAPITULATION.

	Appropriations and Receipts.	Expenditures.
Selectmen's Department	\$2,000 00	\$1,703 31
School Department	7,800 00	7,172 15
Beach School House	3,500 00	3,395 36
Highways	4,200 00	4,140 05
Town Library	704 50	707 73
Overseers of the Poor	800 00	1,024 48
Cemetery	215 00	180 37
Town House	140 50	152 65
Police Department	200 00	170 00
Lamp Department	150 00	145 38
Health Department,		36 75
	<u>\$19,710 00</u>	<u>\$18,828 23</u>
<i>Amounts carried forward,</i>	\$19,710 00	\$18,828 23

	Appropriations and Receipts.	Expenditures.
<i>Amounts brought forward,</i>	\$19,710 00	\$18,828 23
Fire Department	25 00	20 00
Wells	250 00	338 34
Redington Court	500 00	506 00
Stacey's Brook	500 00	42 78
John R. Merrit's claim	125 00	125 00
State Aid	600 00	722 00
State Tax	2,500 00	2,574 00
County Tax	2,000 00	2,126 85
Interest	3,800 00	3,956 95
Reduction of Town Debt	2,000 00	
Dog Tax	160 25	
Corporation Tax	1,057 10	
National Bank Tax	1,529 37	
	<hr/> \$34,756 72	<hr/> \$29,240 15

SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY.

Town House and lot	\$12,000 00
Grammar School-House and lot	8,000 00
Beach School-House and lot	4,000 00
Pine Street School-House and lot	7,000 00
Essex Street School-House and lot	2,500 00
Farm School-House and lot	2,500 00
Engine House, engine and hose	1,200 00
Gravel Pits	2,000 00
	<hr/> \$39,200 00

Town of Swampscott in Account with D. P. Stimpson, Collector.

1876.	Dr.		Cr.	
	1876.		1876.	
To amount of taxes collected . . .	\$22,298	68	By amount committed, 1876 . . .	\$30,547
of taxes abated . . .	148	65		
of taxes discounted . . .	740	30		
of taxes uncollected . . .	7,359	45		
	<u>\$30,547 08</u>			

D. P. STIMPSON, Collector.

SWAMPSCOTT, Feb. 28, 1877.

Town of Swampscott in Account with William Seger, Collector.

1876.	Dr.		Cr.	
	1876.		1875.	
To amount collected, 1875 . . .	\$2,881	47	By balance committed, 1875 . . .	\$5,742
collected, 1874 . . .	960	30	balance committed, 1874 . . .	2,261
abated, 1875 . . .	231	28	interest collected . . .	302
abated, 1874 . . .	90	96		
uncollected, 1875 . . .	2,630	17		<u>\$8,306 71</u>
uncollected, 1874 . . .	1,210	45		
interest collected, 1875 . . .	179	08		
interest collected, 1874 . . .	123	00		
	<u>\$8,306 71</u>			

WM. SEGER, Collector.

Town of Swampscott, in Account with

1876.	Dr.	
To amount abated, 1872		\$104 08
collected, 1873		598 20
abated, 1873		225 84
uncollected, 1873		919 56
		<hr/>
		\$1,847 68

SWAMPSCOTT, Feb. 28, 1877.

Town of Swampscott in Account with

1876.	Dr.	
To cash paid Selectmen's orders, 1876		\$18,502 15
Overseer's orders, 1876		818 86
Selectmen's orders, 1875		136 91
Overseer's orders, 1875		124 56
State Aid		722 00
County Tax		2,126 85
State Tax		2,574 00
note C. F. Coffin		2,000 00
note Mrs. David Newhall		500 00
note Coffin & Boyce, Trustees		3,000 00
note Mary Wilson		1200 00
note E. B. Phillips, Temporary Loan		5,000 00
note National City Bank, Temp. Loan		3,000 00
interest on notes		3,956 95
To balance in Treasury		1,338 20
		<hr/>
		\$45,000 51

SWAMPSCOTT, Feb. 28, 1877.

JOSEPH HARDING, Collector.

1876.	CR.	
By balance committed, 1872		\$104 08
balance committed 1873		1,743 60
		<u>\$1,847 68</u>

JOSEPH HARDING, Collector.

D. P. STIMPSON, Treasurer.

1876.	CR.	
By balance cash in Treasury		\$3,742 53
rent of Town Hall		140 50
cash from Library		465 25
from Cemetery		115 00
Selectmen's sale of old School House		211 00
Town of Marblehead, setting Bound Stones		3 75
Ivory Emmons, school books		4 23
money found, (unclaimed)		2 80
William Seger, taxes		4,143 85
Joseph Harding, taxes		598 20
E. B. Phillips, Temporary Loan		5,000 00
Nat'l City Bank of Lynn, Loan		3,000 00
Nat'l City Bank of Lynn, Loan		2,000 00
County Treasurer, Dog Tax		160 25
State Treasurer, Corp. Tax		1,057 10
State Treasurer, Nat'l Bank Tax		1,529 37
State Treasurer, State Aid		528 00
D. P. Stimpson, Taxes		22,271 38
D. P. Stimpson, interest on Taxes		27 30
		<u>\$45,000 51</u>

D. P. STIMPSON, Treasurer.

Report of Highway Surveyor.

THE Surveyor respectfully submits a synopsis of the Expenditures of his department, in accordance with the Monthly Statements of his Labors, that have been regularly rendered to the Board of Selectmen.

The number of day's labor in gravel pits, on the
roads, sidewalks and streets was $1,042\frac{3}{4}$, at \$1.75 \$1,824 81
Number of horses and carts with drivers $453\frac{3}{4}$, at \$3.50 1,588 12
Running snow plow and use of pung 68 12
Personal services 99 days, at \$3.00 297 00

\$3,778 05

Number loads of gravel hauled on roads and sidewalks 4,090

About one-third of the appropriation was expended on sidewalks and streets.

Some two hundred dollars on paving.

SAMUEL C. PITMAN.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

WE are brought to the close of another municipal year, during which nothing of note has occurred to jar the even tenor of the business of the town.

BEACH SCHOOL-HOUSE.

At the annual Town Meeting, March, 1876, a vote was passed entrusting to the Selectmen the building of a school-house at the Beach. Proposals were issued, and the job was awarded to Ivory Emmons, he being the lowest bidder, for the sum of twenty-three hundred and seventy dollars. The building was completed satisfactory to the Committee, and is now the finest school-house in town.

STACEY'S BROOK.

A Committee was chosen to confer with the City Council of Lynn, to ascertain whether they would pay half the expense of getting rid of the water that flows through Stacey's Brook. The Chairman of that Committee waited upon that Honorable Board, who promised to lay our cause before their Drainage Committee. That Committee voted to pay fifty dollars

towards improving the drain in its original location, but refused to pay anything towards any other outlet.

Had our committee refused to accept their offer and gone to work independent of Lynn, and laid the drain in some other locality, the town of Swampscott would ever after have to maintain the whole drainage, where the authorities of Lynn admit it to be their duty to maintain one-half. Consequently the Committee concluded to add fifty dollars to the sum allowed by Lynn, and spend it on the outlet as it now stands, which has proved very effectual, with the exception of one very heavy rain which lasted several days, during which the adjacent lands were overflowed for a short time.

WELLS.

Appropriations were made for wells at the Town Hall, and at the Grammar, West End, and Beach School-Houses. After conferring with several prominent citizens in regard to the location of the well at the Town Hall, the Selectmen decided upon the present site, which proved a bad selection; for, after worrying through twenty-six feet of the worst digging that ever pick and spade were put to, we encountered a ledge. Having then about thirty inches of water in the well, we concluded to stone it; but since the unprecedented drought it has fallen to eighteen inches. Should we have the usual amount of spring rains, we are confident there will be an ample supply of water in the well.

The well at the Beach needs a drain to carry off the surplus water, and we recommend that it be done as soon as the frost is out of the ground.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN S. HIGGINS, ALLEN ROWE, HENRY KENDRICK,	}	Selectmen.
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Report of Trustees of Public Library.

It is gratifying to record that the Library becomes yearly an influence of greater good. The Committee have endeavored, in the selection of matter, to enlarge its volume of scientific and interesting works, without curtailing unduly its light and fictitious ones.

The Lower Hall has been opened as a Reading-Room Saturday evenings, the past winter, supplied with the leading papers and magazines, as well as the volumes of the Library, the use of which in the Reading-Room has been free to all. With reference to the institution of the Reading-Room, we wish to report that it was done with the unanimous approval of the committee, and with the hope that a division of the receipts and appropriations for the Library, and the application of a portion of the same to the support of the Reading-Room, would meet the approbation and command the respect and support of the reading public; a hope which we trust will be verified by our successors in continuing it, and enlarging its usefulness by keeping it open two or more evenings in each week, as it can be, no doubt, without any extraordinary appropriations.

The Library is open to the public every Saturday,

from 4 to 9, P.M., also Wednesday evenings from 6 to 9 o'clock, from the first of July to the middle of September.

BENJAMIN POTTER,
CHAS. A. HASKELL, 2d.
FRED O. ELLIS.

Librarian's Statement.

STATISTICS.

Number of volumes in Library, February, 1877, . . .	2815
Number of volumes added during year, . . .	194
Number of volumes lost during year, . . .	10
Number of U. S., and State Documents, . . .	182
Number of U. S., and State Documents donated, . . .	9
Number of Magazines, (unbound) . . .	198
Number of books loaned during year. . . .	7327
Amount received for book fees, . . .	\$443.25

CURTIS MERRITT, Librarian.

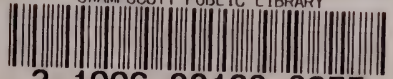
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